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## TOWN OF NEWTOWN

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

### AGENDA

The Legislative Council will hold a regular meeting on Wednesday, May 18, 2011 at 7:30 P.M. in the Board Room in the Newtown Municipal Center, 3 Primrose Street, Newtown, CT.

CALL TO ORDER

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL

VOTER PARTICIPATION

MINUTES Regular Meetings of March 2, April 6, Special Meetings of April 27 and May 3, 2011.

COMMUNICATIONS

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

*Discussion and possible action on:*

- 20011-2012 Town of Newtown Budget.

NEW BUSINESS

*Discussion and possible action on:*

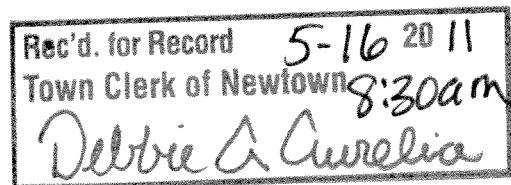
- Set the 2011-2012 Mill Rate
- Discussion and Possible Action on Efforts the Legislative Council may pursue to slow future increases in property taxes.
- Blight Ordinance
- The Transfer of Uncollectible Motor Vehicle Tax Accounts, Personal Property and Real Estate Accounts to the Suspense Tax List.

VOTER PARTICIPATION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

Jeffrey Capeci, Chairman



*If you plan to attend this meeting and require assisted hearing devices, please contact the Office of the First Selectman (203)270-4201 at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting.*

NEWTOWN MUNICIPAL CENTER  
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CAROL MAHONEY  
TAX COLLECTOR  
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## TOWN OF NEWTOWN

DATE: April 25, 2011

TO: The Legislative Council

From: Carol L. Mahoney

Re: The Transfer of Uncollectible Motor Vehicle Tax Accounts, Personal Property and Real Estate Accounts to the Suspense Tax List for your consideration and approval.

The Connecticut State Statutes require that at least once a year the Tax Collector of each municipality shall deliver to the Board of Finance or similar board a listing of all accounts that the Tax Collector believes to be uncollectible. These accounts are then transferred from the regular accounts-receivable to the Suspense Tax Book.

This transfer does not void the tax. If at any time in the future the Tax Collector is able to collect the taxes on the suspense tax list, she shall do so with all the usual interest charges.

The Tax office ceases to send out quarterly bills for these accounts, but in reference to the Motor Vehicle Suspense Accounts, those persons can not register a car in the State of Connecticut until the taxes are paid to the Town of Newtown.

520 Motor Vehicle Accounts	-	\$77,631.45
223 Personal Property Accounts	-	\$52,955.34
34 Real Estate Accounts	-	\$12,801.28

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APRIL- 777 Suspense Accounts totaling \$143,388.07

# TOWN OF NEWTOWN - MILL RATE CALCULATION - 2011 / 2012

## Millrate Calculation

### 2010 List

TOTAL NET ASSESSMENT (LESS EXEMPTIONS)	a	3,924,524,807
ADD(MINUS) ESTIMATED VALUATION ADJUSTMENTS (BEFORE TAX BILLS GO OUT)	b	1,500,000
EFFECTIVE ASSESSMENT ON CIRCUIT BREAKER TAX CREDIT OF \$ 140,000	b	(5,747,126)
EFFECTIVE ASSESSMENT ON LOCAL CREDITS: NEWTOWN ELDERLY TAX BENEFITS OF \$ 1,225,000	b	(50,287,356)
TOTAL TAXABLE NET ASSESSMENT		<u>3,869,990,324</u>

Amount to be raised by taxation (from "current year taxes" - revenue budget)

93,452,078

TAX LEVY - assuming a tax collection rate of  
(= billed amount) (\$93,452,078 divided by 0.991)

99.1%

94,300,785

**MILL RATE = (\$94,300,785 divided by (3,869,990,324 / 1,000))**

**24.37**

1 MILL =

3,869,990.32

PRIOR YEAR MILL RATE =  
EFFECTIVE TAX INCREASE =

24.00  
1.53%

a PER ASSESSOR REPORT; SEE ATTACHED

b PER ASSESSOR ESTIMATE

c PER BOARD OF FINANCE

= FIELD TO BE INPUTTED; ALL OTHER FIELDS ARE CALCULATED

## **Comments on CRC Vote during March 2nd, 2011 LC meeting**

*Begins at 2:40 on the video*

**Kevin Fitzgerald** - Question Jeff, with regard to the vote (we took) on the 9<sup>th</sup>, I think we know now that there are towns that do bifurcate without being binding. Is there anyway that we should look to correct that? How do we get the information out that what we thought was the case on the 9<sup>th</sup>, that there are no towns that bifurcate legally without it being binding, and it's not the case? The Council believed that you could not bifurcate without it being binding, and have the ability to change a passed budget.

**Gary Davis** – I think the point of contention was simply that in New Milford, they have a system where they do bifurcation of the budget. The question that was debated was if you pass one side of the budget and not the other, could you go back and then change the other side of the budget? The answers we got were that you could not but it turned out from further research that indeed that's what they do in New Milford and I believe that's what Kevin is trying to clarify in the minutes.

**Kevin Fitzgerald** – my purpose is not to throw blame on the CRC or the Council, but I think the CRC that evening also told us the same thing.

**Jeff Capeci** – Right.

**Kevin Fitzgerald** – I know you can't go back and redo the CRC vote, so how do we set the record straight for the public so they understand?

**Jeff Capeci** – It looks like our clerk is taking copious notes as we speak.

**Mary Ann Jacob** – I think you need to include the fact that that makes it a nonbinding referendum and the voters can be overturned. So that's an important piece of that.

**Kevin Fitzgerald** – I'm not sure if it's a CRC error because of what Mr. Goldin said but I'd like to make sure we do correct the record accordingly.

**Jeff Capeci** – Apparently he made a mistake when he made that statement.

**Kevin Fitzgerald** – The reason I bring it up is because of what Mr. Goldin said when I brought the issue up, that my opinion on it was wrong when in fact I was right. My point is our decision was made and a vote was taken based on most people believing that in fact it could not be done. That was my concern. I know it doesn't matter because there is nothing we can do now about the Charter Review Process, I just want to make sure that it is on the record accordingly, thank you.

*End 6:10 on the video*